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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 7 Dec. 1951

SUBJECT Press Reports Concerning the Oatis Trial,  
25X1A Leading Czech Communists and Foreign Diplomats

NO. OF PAGES

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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Attached for your retention are three raw reports consisting of items gleaned from the Czech newspapers Rude Pravo and Slovenska Pravda. These reports contain information on the trial of William Oatis, Czech Communist leaders and foreign diplomats in Czechoslovakia.

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B) NONPERSONAL PART:

9 July 1951: Newspaper "For Lasting Peace, For People's" brings an article in its 27 number, to the 3rd anniversary of Tito's declination from Moscow, violently attacking Yugoslavia and Tito. There is further extensive articles of LI-VEJ-SHUN, Chief of Central Committee of Chinese Communist Party Det, discussing problems concerning the unity of front, Chinese Communist Party and democratic front. Then several articles about US fascistic persecution of communistic leaders in USA and finally exhausting article dealing with gang of archbishop GROSZL, under headline "Murderers in priest's gown".

Note: There are no other nonpersonal informations in the press on this subject. There are namely no news about memoranda sent to foreign countries.

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A) TRIALS:

a) Political trials:

1) Trial with William Natham Oatis and others:

The trial started in Prague on 2 July 1951 in front of State Court.  
Chairman of the court: (Dr.) Jaroslav NOVAK.

Note: Dr. Jaroslav NOVAK is about 47, taller, slim, dark complexion, black hair; slightly squinting on left eye. Already prior to Feb 1948 he had been president of so called "High Treason Senate" attached to County Penal Court in Prague. After the February coupe this senate was judging most "prominent" political trials under chairmanship of Dr. Novak, for instance "Most affaire" which caused February government's crises. After the establishment of State Court, Dr. Novak became president of 1st Senate of this court and handled again most important trials. Dr. Novak has been very good penal judge. It is true he had been organized in Communist Party but he was not convinced communist. He had been in the party, so to speak. Shortly after February coupe he spoke against the regime, laughed at communistic representatives and was telling anecdotes about Gottwald, Zapotocky etc. He never tried to sentence people to death even in some most delicate cases. But later on, from unknown notions and reasons, he changed his attitude and became one of most feared judges of State Court having sentenced many people to death. The eventual terrorist action against him would have favourable echo in CSR and would be relatively simple.

Indictment deputy: (Dr.) Josef URBANEK:

Indicted:

William Natham Oatis, Chief of Associated Press in Prague,  
Tomas Svoboda, discharged student,  
Pavel Woydynek and Petr ~~Woz~~ Manz, both employees of Associated Press.

The trial is public, attended by reporters from CSR, USSR, people's democracies, representatives of capitalistic countries and of US embassy in Prague.

Content of charge:

One of espionage centers of American imperialism in CSR had been so called Press Agenture of Associated Press in Prague. Its management changed line of experienced American spies, such as:

Goldberg,  
Kasischke,  
Polowetzky and  
Oatis who was there from June 1950.

This center was not even afraid of murders. Its agent Josef Pavelka murdered a Czechoslovak officer (not named). He got weapon from agent Miroslav Komarek. Oatis offered murderers help and informed Komarek about critical situation of his terroristic group. He further made a contact with US military attache and was receiving from him advices and

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supplied him with espionage material concerning ch[redacted] or-  
 mations. Oatis, together with employees A.P. Woydynek and Minz (Czecho-  
 slovak citizens) had been gathering important material, according to  
 advices of the center, namely concerning military information, security  
 offices, political and economical informations. In the last time he con-  
 centrated his effort to informations concerning the revolt of Sling,  
 Svermova, Clementis etc, chiefly to ascertain where and how far the net-  
 work of traitors had been damaged and what steps should have been done.  
 Proof of indictment about that: personal notes of Oatis about military  
 and security offices and the use of telephone line of a person who was  
 secretly switched on Oatis.

#### Run of the Trial:

Oatis is completely pleading guilty and often speaks against himself,  
 when some of judges forget to ask about something. When the chairman of  
 the court produces Oatis' legitimization of American Intelligence School  
 (in Minnesota), Oatis admits it belongs to him and says that he absolved  
 another such school located in Michigan. There he studied together with  
 Col Attwood, present US military attache to Czechoslovakia.  
 Oatis admits he had with him always a meeting every week or other week  
 to get from him espionage instructions and supply him with material  
 obtained either personally or by means of his (Oatis') co-workers. Besides  
 that he was receiving instructions from New York and London. Oatis  
 forwarded obtained informations also to US military attache Col Ginder,  
 US embassy and British military attache to Prague Wheeler. Finally to  
 London and New York.  
 He admits he acted purposely as a spy in order to obtain secret military,  
 political, economical and industrial informations from various branches  
 and also admits activity as to Sling, Svermova and Clementis.  
 He cites some his co-workers:

Tomas Svoboda, who is also charged,  
 Libensky's family (arrested), visited Svoboda and Woydynek and was in  
 connection with terrorist Komarek,  
 fnu Pavelka, member of Komarek's group, who murdered a Czechoslovak  
 officer,  
 Komarek, escaped to Paris.

Svoboda completely pleads guilty as to willful espionage in various  
 directions, in Oatis' pay. He names: STOCKOVA, member of Komarek's  
 group.

Pavel Woydynek, completely admits that he worked as spy for Oatis for  
 money, as an employee of Associated Press.

Minz, says the same.

Sentences disclosed on 4 July 1951 at 8.00 a.m.

William Natham Oatis, sentenced to 10 years of prison,  
 Tomas Svoboda, 20 years of prison,  
 Pavel Woydynek, 13 years of prison,  
 Petr Minz, 16 years of prison,

All indicted accepted sentences immediately.

Note: This is a typical example of prepared trial by Moscow's order.  
 Czechoslovak regime have probably avoid the whole affaire  
 using some other ~~SECRET~~ in other similar cases (Oatis expelled  
 from GSR), because it had to aware of political consequences.

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This fact is also seen in mild sentence Oatis got though his activity was incomparably large than of all other and he was author of all actions and others only lured victims.

Also style and form of all confessions as well as immediate acceptance of sentences shows that the trial was prepared in advance by respective methods of STB accepted from USSR.

Propagational use of the trial:

Exhausting court reports about Oatis' trial appear for several days in all Czechoslovak papers being accompanied by other propaganda articles morally condemning nasty methods of the West trying so to overthrow constructional effort of working people in people's democracies. Similar propaganda articles appeared also in Soviet press.

(RP from 1,3,4, and 5 July 1951)

(SP from 3,4, and 5 July 1951)

Official report on Babice: disclosed on 6 July 1951.

Content:

On 2 July 1951 2 armed bandits penetrated into the building of Babice's school (district of Moravske Budejovice) at 22,30, during the meeting of four members of Local National Committee. Bandits shot down a school manager Tomas KUCHTIK, chairman of Local National Committee, Josef ROUBEC, vice-chairman of MNV, Bohumir NETOLICKA and an Accountant. The last one Frantisek BLAHA chairman of AVNF was wounded. The hiding place of terrorists was then found and 2 of them were killed in later firing while others surrendered. Also co-workers of the group were arrested. Group's leader was an agent trained in Bavaria for purpose of overthrow by means of murders and terroristic actions. Using money from abroad he succeeded to organize a group composed mostly of village magnates who got their orders from abroad. (RP from 6 July 1951)

2) Babice Trial:

The trial was opened at Jihlava in big hall of Workers House on 12 July 1951, in front of State Court.

Chairman of the court:

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Indictment deputies:

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Content of charge: not mentioned in reports from the court [REDACTED]  
seen from pleading guilty of indicted persons.  
Charges will appear at every individual person.

Evidences:

Jan PLICHTA: joined a terroristic group of a certain Smetana in spring of 1950 AND LATER ON was hidden at Stehlik. There he was often visited by priest Drbola. On 15 May he met Maly for the first time who had been sent to Czechoslovakia as trained terrorist by CIC from Bavaria. Plichta personally did participated in Babice action but his two sons. Besides that he was planning an action at Sebkovice where 5 communists were to be hanged. Also functionaries at Vicenice and Rokytnice were supposed to be removed and a barn at Mikulovice kindled.

Priest Frantisek PARIL: got acquainted with Maly through Mityska. He had terrorists in his parish, offered them shelter and lent them his typewriter to make anticommunistic pamphlets. He was also included into plans of the group and agreed with them.

Antonin MITYSKA: had been working with Maly and Plichta since 11 May. Maly supplied his group with weapons including SMGs. He paid his men 300 Kcs aday during action and 200 Kcs when no action. They joined priest Paril. About on 14 July they publically tortured functionaries at Cidlina village. They all were armed with SMGs, hand-grenades and pistols. Then a cooperation's depot with straw was burnt out with damage over 1,000,000 Kcs. After they had got acquainted with Babice's priest Drbola they prepared Babice action. According to Mityska's description, he, Maly and two Plichta's sons went to school building. Mityska with Maly got through and started to shoot off all present people there. They shot all but one. Then they escaped to Cidlina village and from there into fields where they were hiding in cereal. The next day they found they were encircled. Maly and Mityska defended themselves with SMGs and hand-grenades. Maly was seriously wounded and died.

Frantisek KOPULETY: installed a bunker in his garden for Maly and his group and provided them with further weapons. He planned with them to make a raid on communistic functionaries at Heraldice and to murder a certain Bohdalek. He also participated in raid on agriculture cooperation at Heraldice. During this action a group's member Drahomir Nemec was wounded. Kopulety then took care of his with his wife.

Bozena KOPULETA: helped his husband to hide terrorists and knew about their activities.

Antonin SKRDLA: knew about the activity of terrorists made a contact for them and provided Maly with weapons. Also offered a shelter.

Ludvik STEHLIK: offered a shelter for Plichta and help to the group after murders at Babice.

Alois ROUPEC: offered [REDACTED] shelter for Maly and agreed with group's actions. He also helped them after the action at Babice.

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Drahomir NEMEC: ~~accepted~~ accepted weapons from Maly, took part in terroristic action at Heraldice and co-planned to murder Bohdalek. During the action at Heraldice he was wounded by a certain Kovar whom he also wounded.

Karel NEMEC: was hiding Maly and knew about his planned actions. He also acted as a contact, provided shelter for weapons and organized meetings of terrorists.

Priest Vaclav DRBOLA: offered Maly and other terrorists a hiding place at his parish, treated them there and asked them to get rid of functionaries of MNV at Babice. So that he was spiritual author of succesful Babice action.

Josef VORLICEK: was hiding terrorists and agreed with their actions.

Jindrich NAHODIL: was recruiting people for Maly's group, provided them with weapons, arranged contacts among group's members and supplied them with food and drinks. He also tried to exchange US dollars (US airplane brought them for Maly) but did not succeeded. He knew about terroristic actions of the group.

Ladislav BRABENEC: delivered 4 SMGs and 3 pistols for Maly's group and was supplying them with various informations.

Witnesses:

Frantisek PISA, member of District National Committee at Moravske Budejovice. He gave testimony how he had been tortured by terrorists on 14 June and forced to lead them to another functionary Lasek. Terrorists threatened to both to hang them.

Frantisek BLAHA: from Babice, chairman of AVNF, worker. He was at the meeting in Babice's school during terroristic action there and escaped the death as the only one of 4 present members of MNV. He was seriously wounded.

Josef BALOUN: his domicile and occupation is not mentioned. Terrorists got on him and forced him with weapons to lead them to Local National Committee. According to some facts of his testimony, this action happened at Cidlina.

Jaroslav BOHDALEK: details about him not mentioned. He was tortured by Maly and Mityska somewhere in fields and left in a nearby wood with crashed skull.

It was further stated during the trial that terroristic group had been armed with SMGs of British production such as "Sten", also of German production, with explosives of British origin "Plastic 808" and Alfred Nobel Glasgow.

Advocates (defenders):

Were assigned to inditees ex offio. Their names have not been published. They just pointed out extenuating circumstances.

Sentences: disclosed on 14 July 1951 at Jihlava.

Inditees sentenced guilty from high treason, sabotages, intended and completed murders and directions to murder.

Punishments:



Punishments:**SECRET**

Antonin MITYSKA,  
 Jan PLICHTA,  
 Drahomir NEMEC,  
 Frantisek KOPULETY,  
 Antonin SKRDLA,  
 Vaclav DRBOLA,  
 Frantisek PARIL      all sentenced to death.

Alons ROUPPEC,  
 Karel NEMEC,      both sentenced to life terms

Ladislav BRABENEC,      sentenced to 25 years

Bozena KOPULETA,  
 Ludvik STEHLIK,      both sentenced to 20 years

Jindrich NAHODIL,      sentenced to 23 years

Josef VORLICEK,      sentenced to 22 years

All their property confiscated and loss of citizen's right for 10 years.

Note: The whole affaire takes place around Trebic and Moravske Budejovice, the county which was an important center of resistance against Germans during occupation. The trial illustrates the fact of attitude taken up by country people towards present regime. All inditees are normal smaller farmers, small tradesmen and priests. It is apparent that Babice became an indicator of countryside as to unbereable situation spread over countryside by communistic regime. It is evident, from hidden hints during the trial, that there have been more similar cases and existence of small terroristic groups through countryside endangering communistic functionaries. This trial shows the effort of regime to frighten countryside population by enormous punishments as seen in the trial.

Propagational use of the trial:

Similar to Oatis' trial, reports from court are accompanied by whole line of further propaganda articles with violent attacks against the west which is supposed to send agents to Czechoslovakia to murder innocent people. The whole case is described in tendency to show as if Babice action involved participants from Vatikan up to the last village priest. KSC functionaries and namely Babice's victims are illustrated as angels who descended upon the earth in human appearance to serve the poor people. On the other hand all inditees are scums of mankind to whom the greatest villany was strange. They all lived upon blood and sweat of poor people and the fact they have been unable to go on like that made them ardent enemies of regime and people.

It is to be seen that this kind of querilla is hitting the regime on very sensitive spot, so that its intensifying and widespreading would very much contribute to weaken the regime because it would be able to find its cadres of functionaries in countryside who are necessary there to do the administrative work for regime. It is the known fact that there are very few convinced, able and reliable communists in countryside. The most of members of Local National Committees are people who are functioning from fear of regime. So if terroristic actions grew larger all these people would be scared to accept some public functions.

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b) Economical trials:

1) Gang of ration cards forgers:

The trial opened on 10 July 1951 in front of 5 member Senate of District Penal Court in Prague.

Chairman of the court: [REDACTED]

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Indictment deputy: Eduard SVACH, worker's procurator

Indictees:

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The trial is open to public and attended mostly by women in households.

Content of charge:

This murderous gang loathing honest work became its activity back to 1950. Since June 1950 They made and put into circulation false ration cards on 50,000 kg meat and over 2,000 kg sugar, as far as it could be ascertained. They caused serious disturbances in meat supplying. Gang's leader was Maticka whose profit was 1,500.000 Kcs as he admitted.

Development of the trial:

Not interesting. Indictees are pleading guilty all the time and convicting others. The final speech of worker's procurator reveals that besides these 8 indictees there were to be other 60 people involved in the gang mostly former tradesmen, butchers, bakers etc. According to procurator's words the gang worked very cleverly so that despite watchfulness of the people they succeeded in hitting one of most important sectors of planned economy, i.e. supplies of vital products.

Witnesses: are not named.

Sentences disclosed in the morning on 11 July 1951.

Punishments:

Jan MATICKA

Vaclav VACINEK, both sentenced to death,

Josef TOMAN, sentenced to life term,

Jan KATROVSKY, sentenced to 25 years of prison,

Rudolf SAFRANEK, sentenced to 22 years of prison,

Josef LANAR,

Jaroslav HEROLD, sentenced to 18 years of prison,

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Property of all the indicted has been confiscated and they lost citizen's rights. It is not mentioned whether they accepted their sentences.

Note: Sentences are apparently enormous. This trial together with others which are described later on is here to prove to public that the regime is not responsible for economical calamity but these murderous elements who mar regime's effort to reach common welfare. Also this trial is used for huge propaganda like both previous political trials.

(RP from 9,11 and 12 July)

2) Deserved punishment for a village magnate:

Trial took place at District Court, Vodnany (date, chairman of court and indictment deputies not mentioned). The trial sentenced a village magnate from Truskovice who all the time had pretended to be poor for hiding 50 q of cereal and some textile goods, to 3 years of prison, confiscation of all his property and fine of 50,000 Kcs.

(RP from 13 July 1951)

3) Unmasked face of a village magnate:

Village magnate Blazek and his son Vackav (together 23 hectares of land) from Slavosovice, district of Trebon concealed a part of farming land so that they gained 2,000 kg of corn. Further they kept only 3 cows instead of planned 5 cows. Therefore they were sentenced to 3 years of prison, confiscation of all property and loss of citizen's rights.

(SP from 14 July 1951)

4) Disturbers of supplying:

Senate of District Court at Lucenec sentenced on 5 July 1951 following people:

[REDACTED]

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They were sentenced for incorrect use of ration cards so that 12,000 workers had been short of their rations.

Punishment:

Stefan ZEIWALD sentenced to 8 years of prison and 80,000 Kcs of fine, confiscation of all his property,  
Stefania TOMKOVA, sentenced to 4 years of prison and 10,000 Kcs of fine,  
Helena Mitterbachova, sentenced to 4 years of prison and 20,000 Kcs of fine.

(SP from 14 July 1951)

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12) Village magnate - saboteur:**SECRET**

District Court at Cesky Tesin held a public trial against [REDACTED] of Horni Zukov, widow of former agrarian member of parliament. She is indicted that she allowed her farm to become ruins and so disturbed supplying. She also did not deliver prescribed contingent of meat, milk and wheat.

Punishment: sentenced to 7 years of prison, loss of citizen's rights and confiscation of all her property, together with fine of 100,000 Kcs. (RP from 26 July 1951)

13) Punishments for disturbers of peaceful crops:

Public trial at Samirina held by Senate of District Court on 28 July 1951.

Indictees:

They both owned 22 hectares of arable land at Vlky village. They did not care enough about fields, did not completed crops to 19 July 1951 and did not keep contingents of some food. They moreover were sentenced to loss of their property and fines. All the public was very satisfied with their punishment. (SP from 31 July 1951)

14) Damager from Liptovsky Mikulas:

Senate of District Court at Liptovsky Mikulas sentenced and found guilty Pavel Halbsche, a watchmaker there in trial held on 27 July 1951 because he had been hiding part of his goods in hat shop and so purposely endangered public supplying and deprived the government of taxes. He was sentenced to 13 years of prison, found goods and half of his property confiscated and fine of 150,000 Kcs, together with loss of citizen's rights. (SP from 31 July 1951)

Note: All described economical trials reveal the fact of ruthless liquidation of farming class. Farmers are being arrested on slightest charges, their property confiscated. The same is with small tradesmen and shopkeepers. These methods are also here to show people that shortage of goods and poverty, which start to be felt in Czechoslovakia quite considerably, are not caused by USSR exploitation and impotence of communist regime but by class' enemy. i.e. farmers and tradesmen though they have been already long time deprived of their importance and position. Besides reports from trials there are on and on coming articles discovering and citing further village magnates and former tradesmen who have been all the time threatened with severe punishment for disturbing of people's supplying. Gathering such reports should cause an impression on people that there exists a coupe of most people belonging either to farmers or tradesmen resulting hunger of other people.

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c) Other informations:

Church punishment for priests of Babice's affaire:

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priest of Babice. On ground of church laws both priests were degraded and deprived of all functions. At the same time the circular disclosing priests' punishment warns other priest not support any other illegal activity ~~because~~ because such activity will be punished not only by civil law but also by church law. (RP from 25 July 1951)

Note: This information seems to be very strange because it does not say what church authority made the verdict and when. There is further talk about a circular of church authorities threatening with church punishments for activity against communist regime but without mentioning these authorities. It would really be worth finding who is standing behind these verdicts. It seems to be a deceit of regime to perplex catholic priests in CSR.

B) Emigration:

a) Personal part:

b) Nonpersonal part:

There have been no actual reports to be filed ad a) or b) except usual attacks against treacherous emigrants fighting against own country in pay of western imperialists.

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B) Nonpersonal informations:

The overall picture of communistic policy as seen in July's press is very interesting. One cannot see now high-spirited optimism accompanied by big-mouth appraised successes and all possible statistics proving ever improving conditions, growing productivity and so general well-being of working people. On the contrary there has been a sudden turn inspired by KSC Central Committee.

Central Committee of Communist Party (UVKSC):

Held a general meeting on 26 and 27 July 1951 with discussion of the following program and problems:

- 1) To accelerate collectivization of villages,
- 2) Internal fastening of JZD and their better organization.
- 3) Fight against sabotages of village magnates; Slansky's report to points 1 and 3.
- 4) Administration of state farms and machinery stations will be reorganized while the management of state farms and forests will be cancelled. The administration will be then managed by Ministry of Agriculture through counties, farms will become self-contained agriculture units and their control by people's administration must be enlarged.
- 5) Measures in supplying (shortage in meat, fats, eggs). The report to point 5 given by the president Gottwald and Deputy of General secretary Frank.
- 6) Transfer of administrative employees into production. It concerns those 77,500 people which was agreed at government's meeting on 29 June 1951. About 50 persons participated in debate (RP from 1 July 1951)

The center of gravity is concentrated in point 5 because, as the press further says, Czechoslovakia is undergoing complete supply calamity which puts everything else in the press aside, including state policy.



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Like in the last month's press, the policy of Czechoslovak communists has a paint of peaceful campaign but now is, however, put into background by general economical calamity. So for instance "Rude Právo" devoted big articles to this problem in issues from 2 July 1951. Agreements of Communist Party done on 26 and 27 July 1951 mean very strong reduction of living standard of working class in Czechoslovakia. They hit both free and controlled market very seriously. It is not thinkable that apparent shortage of goods, increase of prices and at the same time running so called "norms" screening meaning general lowering of worker's wages would not affect the mood of inhabitants and their attitude towards regime. It is only natural that the regime tries to place the responsibility on someone else and somehow justify this calamity. The speech of Krajcír, Minister of Interior Trade shows best what ~~will~~ happened and how to face it. This speech was held in front of hurridly called nationwide conference of chairmen and general secretaries of County National Committees taking place on 13 July 1951.

Content of Krajcír's speech, Minister of Interior Trade:

Measures of government touched also ~~freemarket~~ controlled market (ration) where meat rations were lowered down to 80%. As a recompensation a consumer will get flakes, peeled barley and doughy products. It is a great effort of government to maintain the same rations on controlled market because the republic must pay huge sums of money to do so. There must be fixed order in rations because meat rations for hard working had been issued to everyone, even administrative employees. The same applies to rations for ill people. Controlled market was moreover burdened with floods of false ration cards. The controlled market must be relieved by means of new order in this respect.

Note: It is evident that announced measures concerning controlled market be it reduced meat rations or deprivation of ration cards will hit hundreds of thousands of people who have had extra ration cards till now and whose attitude towards regime will be so even sharper. Prices on free market had to be increased because government must pay now twice as much as in winter and 50% more than in previous month for pigs above normal contingent. This fact shows evident drop of agricultural production because it is unbelievable for regime existing in CSR to pay suddenly 100% more, be it producer or a cooperation. Also prices of industrial products on free market had to be increased because of increased prices of imported raw material. Because over 50% of our foreign trade is with USSR and Krajcír did not say that new increase in prices is attack of western imperialists against social constructing of republic, it is clear that prices of imported industrial raw material have been increased by USSR or other satellites respectively. One of crises' reasons as seen by Krajcír is the fact that supplying sources do not fulfill their duties that we must import what we could produce by ourselves. They are primarily village magnates who make willful attacks against started way of socialism and constructional effort of republic through not fulfilling contingents or negative work in JZB. Therefore, it is necessary to take sharpest steps in this respect. Krajcír sees further reason of calamity in overgrown administration which diminishes quantity of goods without producing it on one side and on the other side makes ~~things~~ expensive because regime of enterprises is enormous. The whole thing will be improved now because these thousand hands of administrative employees will be now in production and their transfer from administration will relieve regime. Therefore the people are delighted with measures which government has undertaken in this respect.

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Further reason is incorrectly organized distribution. Krajcir admitted it would be necessary to better solve the problem of sale to avoid fronts of people in front of shops. It is so because selling centers do not order goods in time and in sufficient quantity ??? But, as he said, it was impossible to make a remedy because demand was larger than offer. It is the result of too high wages growing larger than necessary and also distribution does not work in the way it should do. Goods on free market is being sold when workers are in work to proteges and speculations in goods purchasing are not rare. It will be ordered that all salesmen will have to swear not sell goods only to their proteges (friends etc). Otherwise they will be subjects of severe punishment. Krajcir at last admitted that the situation with vegetable and fruit was also bad. There have been fronts everywhere. Once there is nothing available, another time too much again to sell it and goods is decaying. It also happens that recreation centers around Prague (where are workers) have nothing to sell. Somewhere again occurred cases that no vegetable and fruit was available for 14 days, not even potatoes.

This is just where difficulties are rooted, besides utmost exploitation of all Czechoslovak sources by USSR, now having to be faced by the government. It is red tape system working without private initiative and being so unable to solve the problem of distribution and equal supplying for population.

Krajcir further pointed out the defect in purchasing, namely fear that after crops there would be shortage of storage room and appealed to National Committees to take necessary steps in this respect.

(RP from 14 July 1951)

In the whole line articles, naturally, working people are accepting all these measures concerning reduction of meat rations and increased prices of daily items with approval and enthusiasm. Factories unanimously are agreeing upon pledges and resolutions thanking the party and government for their heart-touching care of working people, also individuals sending letters to editions or offices. At the same time it is pointed out what a difference it is between well-being now and poverty of pre-war capitalist republic. To prove to people that the calamity is really caused by reasons disclosed by the government, the press brings every day columns reporting trials of village magnates from all over the country. Also prepared trials with ration cards forgers are going on. The whole case is accompanied by articles of worker's correspondents who are discovering in turn sabotages of these village magnates. The soft background music to all that is represented by frolics of imperialists and foreign capitalists who do not loath any nasty means, ranging from espionage to ruthless murders, only to disrupt successful constructing effort of Czechoslovak working people (trial with Oatis, Babice's case etc).

#### Harvest:

The second place of press campaign as to number of articles is devoted to harvest. It is evident that this problem makes head aches to government because such matters as peace campaign, norms screenings, socialistic competition and pledges had to retreat aback into background. Line of articles appeared in Rude Pravo to 9 July 1951 concerning harvest. Besides that every copy of this newspaper brings other minor articles dealing with the same subject. Articles point out defects being detected in planning, preparations of machinery and people etc. All sections of administration and the party are blamed now. The real disorder in this respect and worries of government may be seen from content of Ministers' meeting held on 10 July 1951 and from special proclamation issued by government that appeared in

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daily press on 11 July 1951.

Lack of connection with masses of people:

As to straight party life the July's press turns its attention to the fact of unsufficient connection in the party from top to bottom. Articles all the time point out that communistic functionaries in the past had contacts up to the most remote working place while today the party becomes bureaucratic and her functionaries either ~~does~~ not contact people or do not care.

The year of party schooling 1951/52:

The resolution of UVKSC (KSC Central Committee) expresses a satisfaction with the fact that schooling has become an integral part of party life. Then follows the critique of second year of party schooling, i.e. 1950/51. Teachers of this party schooling have not been consistent enough in combat propaganda resulting that the spiritual level of schooling is not as high as it should be. Therefore Consultation Sections of Marx-Leninism have the task to help teachers to reach the proper level. Great defects also exist in directing and control of schooling concerning local organizations and also District and County National Committees of Communist Party. Only number of enrollees is controlled. The work of evening schools is dissatisfactory, also very study of higher functionaries of the party. There must be undertaken determined remedy, it cannot be tolerated that higher cadres do not study theory. The basic mistake is that communists are falling into practicism, fulfill their tasks mechanically acquiring spiritless routinism with larger and larger faults appearing gradually in their work. (Most blame falls upon the clique of Sling and &). The next part announces the program and form of the 3rd year of party schooling.

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**SECRET**